

THE TRANSPORTATION LINK



Vol. 6 No. 3

March 1999

Message from the Secretary



**Secretary
Rodney E.
Slater**

One hundred fifty years ago, the Women's Rights Movement began in America. President Clinton and I are committed to expanding opportunities for women in transportation, both in government and industry. I am proud that many women hold key decision-making posts throughout the Department of Transportation and of the important role women-owned businesses play in the design, building and maintenance of our nation's transportation system.

From Martha Coston to Jeana Yeager, women have been and continue to be explorers, inventors, and entrepreneurs. Their histories inspire all of us to use our creativity to improve the quality of life and economy for all Americans. By working together, we will make our 21st century transportation system international in reach, intermodal in form, intelligent in character and inclusive in nature.

As a Nation, we cannot afford to waste the talents of a single American. The transportation industry welcomes women. We need your involvement to help shape the transportation system of the 21st century.

Women at the DOT



L to R: Gloria J. Jeff, Deputy Administrator, Federal Highway Administration; Nuria Fernandez, Deputy Administrator, Federal Transit Administration; Jane F. Garvey, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration; Jolene M. Molitoris, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration; Kelly Coyner, Administrator, Research and Special Programs Administration; Nancy E. McFadden, General Counsel, Department of Transportation.

Check Out These Websites

*on women's history, and
women in transportation ...*

U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau

[www.dol.gov/dol/wb/public/
info_about_wb/interwb.htm](http://www.dol.gov/dol/wb/public/info_about_wb/interwb.htm)

National Archives and Records Administration's Pathfinder for Women's History Research

[www.nara.gov/nara/naralibrary/alice/
wmenbib.html](http://www.nara.gov/nara/naralibrary/alice/wmenbib.html)

National Women's Hall of Fame

[www.sbaonline.sba.gov/womeninbusiness/
fame.html](http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov/womeninbusiness/fame.html)

Women's Transportation Seminar

www.wtsnational.org

*on women-owned
business resources ...*

Office of Women's Business Ownership

<http://www.sba.gov/womeninbusiness/>

American Business Women's Association

<http://www.abwahq.org/>

American Business Women International

<http://www.abwiworld.com/>

National Association of Railway Business Women

<http://www.narbw.org/essence.html>

Women Business Owners and Managers

<http://www.nawbo.org/nawbo/nawbostart.nsf>

Womens's Business Enterprise National Council

<http://orgs.womenconnect.com/wbenc/>

Women Business Owners Corporation

<http://www.wboc.org/>

OSDBU

Office of Small
and Disadvantaged
Business Utilization

wants to hear from you!! Call us toll-free at 1 800 532-1169 with questions or comments about this newsletter or our web site. The Transportation Link's content may be reprinted without permission.

SAR: Waking Up Drowsy Drivers

This month, the *Transportation Link* spotlights a 1998 U.S. DOT Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Award Recipient, Dr. Maria J. Hankerson of Systems Assessment & Research, Inc. (SAR). SAR has conducted important DOT research on the role of fatigue, inattention and sleep disorder in highway crashes for the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's (NHTSA) 'Drowsy Driver' campaign.

Dr. Hankerson is a clinical researcher with a dual specialty in mental illness and substance abuse. She served under President Bush's Drug Czar, William Bennett, from 1990 to 1992. Regarding her sleep research, Hankerson says that, "Quality of life often means quality of sleep. Sleep disorders can affect how aggressive you drive and how alert you are when driving. Critical reaction time can be adversely effected by sleep disorders. It's a serious public health issue."

Hankerson would also like to explore the role of car phones, pagers, and other devices that divert driver's attention and could result in highway crashes. She feels strongly that research needs to be conducted in this area.

In 1992, Dr. Hankerson started up her own health services consulting company. In her first year, SAR reported gross revenues totaling around \$1 million and employed one administrative assistant. In two years, SAR had applied for and received 8(a) designation. "Without the 8(a) program, companies like mine would not get through the door to give a marketing presentation," says Hankerson. "Without the 8(a) program, we couldn't compete." SAR's 1998 gross revenues were \$15 million with over 40 full and part-time employees.



**SAR's CEO,
Dr. Maria J.
Hankerson**

For more information on SAR, visit their website at <http://www.sarcorp.com/> or call (301) 731-4300

OSDBU Supports WBE Participation in ITS Projects

In an attempt to support and broaden the participation of women-owned business in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) contracting opportunities, the US DOT Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) has contracted with Telspan International of Maryland to spearhead a series of initiatives supporting this objective.

Telspan's CEO, Antoinette (Toni) Ford, was featured in the Sept. 98 edition of *The Transportation Link* and was recently honored as 'Entrepreneur of the Year' by the Federation of Black Women Business Owners.

Ford's company will work to determine the needed requirements and experiences for women-owned businesses to be competitive candidates for ITS op-

portunities, identify potential ITS projects and opportunities, and foster communication to match candidates to opportunities.

"If this is done well, we can institutionalize women-owned business's participation in ITS related contracts," says Ford.



**Telspan's
CEO,
Antoinette
(Toni) Ford**

For more information about this initiative, contact Telspan by phone at (301) 731-5355, by e-mail at a-ford@erols.com or visit their website at <http://www.telspanofmd.com>

DOT and SBA Sign MOU

In December 1998, DOT and the Small Business Administration (SBA) signed a *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)*. This MOU supports the government-wide goal for participation by small business concerns owned and controlled by women at not less than 5 percent of the total value of all prime contracts and subcontract awards for each fiscal year.

DOT is utilizing a variety of initiatives to meet these goals. For example, each Operating Administration (OA) has appointed a Women's Business Advocate to serve as a direct advocate to the women-owned business community. "Women Business Enterprise Days" have been planned for each OA to discuss procurement opportunities with Women-Owned Small Businesses (WOSB) on those specific days.

Also, DOT is supporting the Inter-agency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise and the National Women's Business Council in developing and promoting new initiatives, policies, programs, and plans designed to foster women's business enterprise.

OSDBU will continue to highlight WOSB issues in future editions of *The Transportation Link* and on the OSDBU web site.

For more information call 800-532-1169 and visit the OSDBU web site at <http://osdbuweb.dot.gov> The Memorandum of Understanding can be viewed at <http://osdbuweb.dot.gov/1moudotsba.html>

The Federal Highway Administration has a very informative web site on Women in Transportation located at www.fhwa.dot.gov/wit/

It includes extensive information on Women's History in Transportation including an interesting timeline of significant events.



Dolly Small
LOSP Director



Lucy Jensen
Business Owner



D. Jean Wu
Business Owner



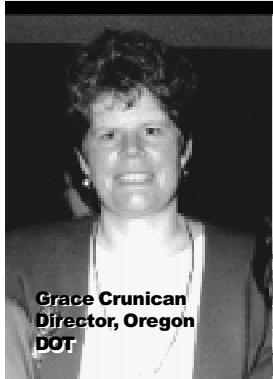
Dr. Christine Johnson
Director, ITS Joint
Program Office



Karen L. Van Dyke
Electronics Engineer



Jo A. Blackstone
Regional Civil Rights
Director



Grace Crunican
Director, Oregon
DOT



Sandy Lane
Supervisory
Attorney



Marisa Dimuzio
Employee Benefits
Assistant



Claudia Dolinsky
ETTAP Director



Linda H. Baines
Environmental Protection
Assistant



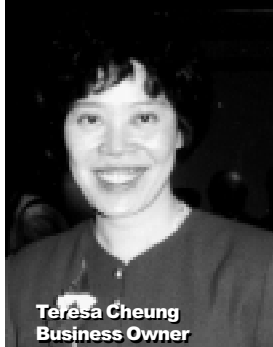
Rosemary Breiner OSDBU
Advisory Comm. Member
& Business Owner



Espeticion Fuentes
Business Owner



Carol A. Fenton
Director, Lock
Operations



Teresa Cheung
Business Owner



Jana Evans
Business Owner



Mary Ann Elliott
Business Owner



Jane Howard OSDBU
Advisory Comm. Member
& Business Owner

DBE Update

The lead story of last month's *Transportation Link* was on the new Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program regulation.

OSDBU has electronically posted a collection of materials that pertain to the DBE Program. Included are a Summary of Key Changes, an analysis of Key Issues in the New Rule, press releases, and the full text of the new regulation provided in a variety of formats for your ease of use. All of these materials can be viewed at <http://osdbuweb.dot.gov/programs/dbe/dbe.htm>

Recently, on the same web page, a section was added containing detailed *Questions and Answers on the DBE Program Regulation*. These questions and answers are indexed to tie in with specific subsections of the *DBE Program Regulation (49 CFR Part 26)*. They have been approved by the General Counsel of DOT as consistent with the language and intent of the new regulation.

For more information on the DOT/DBE final rule, visit the OSDBU web site at <http://osdbuweb.dot.gov/programs/dbe/dbe.htm> or call Bob Ashby at (202) 366-9306.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR March/April 1999

Date	Place	Contact
March 17	National Black Business Council Procurement Trade Mission DOT Nassif Build., Washington, DC	Angela Dilver-Dendy (800) 532-1169 http://osbuweb.dot.gov
March 26-28	American Business Women's Association Spring Conference Series, Biloxi, MS	Lisa Bickham (816) 361-6621 http://www.abwahq.org/registrationframes.html
April 8	Working Seminar for Entrepreneurial Women New York City, NY Presented in cooperation with SBA http://www.sba.gov/womeninbusiness/vicad	Dale Howard Associates (201) 681-7800 email: dhal@pipeline.com
April 13	OSDBU Marketplace Los Angeles, CA	Nelson Quinones (800) 532-1169 http://osbuweb.dot.gov
April 19-22	Ninth Annual Meeting and Exposition of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America Washington, DC	Katrina Mayo (202) 484-4549

March is 'National Women's History Month' and an annual celebration of women's contribution to our Nation's illustrious history. OSDBU recognizes the special contributions of women in the history of transportation.

<http://osdbuweb.dot.gov>

US Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation

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Address Correction Requested